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5 November 1998

THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is:

Inventor: Harry W. Eberle, III

For: Anchoring Biscuit Device

Docket No.: HWE-105C - Continuation-in-Part of United States
pending Patent Application Serial No. 08/811,898

Enclosed are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The patent application | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Associate Power of Attorney |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Copies of Prior Art References | <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of a _____ Application |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small entity status declaration | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>3</u> sheets of drawings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (included in specification) | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PTO 1449 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An Assignment of the invention to: | |
| <hr/> | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check No. <u>2055</u> in the amount of \$ <u>395.00</u> to cover the filing fee. | |
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Express Mail No. EI706800476US


Kenneth P. Glynn

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ANCHORING BISCUIT DEVICE

Inventor: Harry W. Eberle, III

Attorney Docket No. HWE-105C

(This is a continuation-in-part of United States pending Patent Application Serial No. 08/811,898, filed on March 5, 1997, entitled, "Anchoring Biscuit Device for Joining Two Adjacent Boards", by the same inventor herein.)

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ANCHORING BISCUIT DEVICE
(Attorney Docket No.HWE-105C)

REFERENCE TO RELATED CASE

5 This is a continuation-in-part of U.S.
pending patent application Serial No. 08/811,898,
filed on March 5, 1997 entitled, "Anchoring
Biscuit Device for Joining Two Adjacent Boards",
by the same inventor herein.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

10 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention is directed to an
improved biscuit for joining adjacent boards.
More specifically, the invention is an anchoring
biscuit device, as well an anchoring half biscuit
15 device which has the ability for pre-setting
distances between adjacent boards and attaching
to at least one board by means in addition to the

biscuit itself. The anchoring biscuit device physically joins two adjacent boards in the same plane to a third, supporting board. The anchoring half-biscuit device joins two adjacent boards at right angles to one another.

5

2. Information Disclosure Statement

The following patents are representative of the state of the art for wood joining devices, equipment and methods:

10

U.S. Patent No. 1,184,080 to D'Arcy describes a structure of the class described, the combination of frame pieces disposed at an angle to each other and plate-like corner irons having angularly disposed flanges, said corner irons being arranged in opposed pairs on the sides of and secured to the ends of meeting frame pieces

15

with their flanges engaging the inner edges
thereof in overlapping telescoping relation to
each other, the inner flanges having vertical
nail slots therein and brads on their edges
5 driven into the frame pieces, the outer flanges
having nail perforations opposite the nail slots,
there being nails disposed through the said
perforations and slots and driven into the frame.

U.S Patent No. 2,332,081 to G.M. Hunt et al
10 is directed to a wooden panel. It is described as
a panel comprising wooden strips joined along
their edges with glue, each strip having at least
one groove in its edge matching groove in the
edge of the adjoining strip, an asbestos
15 millboard spline fitted in the matching grooves
and bridging the joint between the strips,

crossbands covering the strips on both sides of
the panel, and veneers covering the crossbands.

U.S. Patent No. 2,362,252 to Ellinwood

describes a wall structure of the character

5 described comprising a pair of adjacent wallboard

panels having meeting edges, each of said panels

being formed with a groove opening into its

meeting edge, the groove in each panel providing

an outer lip and an inner lip, said outer lips

10 being in abutting relation, a joining strip

permanently secured to the under surface of said

outer lips, said inner lips being spaced, a T-

shaped connecting member movably positioned in

said groove and having a base in spaced relation

15 to said inner lips, and means for anchoring said

connecting member to a structural element.

U.S. Patent No. 2,398,603 to Soderberg

describes a joining staple, comprising a metal
body having at least two portions extending at
right angles to each other and at least two teeth
5 carried upon each of said portions, each of said
teeth consisting of a flat substantially
rectangular body having a cutting edge extending
substantially parallel to its body portion, the
cutting edges of all of said teeth being located
10 in one plane, each of said portions having
another cutting edge extending between the teeth
of that portion, the second mentioned cutting
edges being also located in one plane.

U.S. Patent No. 2,406,387 to Lank describes

15 the method of constructing a plurality of wooden
posts each of which has a connector element

incorporated therein adjacent each end thereof
which method comprises forming a plurality of
longitudinally extending grooves in one side of
each of a pair of wooden blanks from which the
5 posts are to be formed, forming a transverse
groove adjacent each end of said side of each of
said blanks with the transverse grooves
intersecting the longitudinal grooves, providing
a pair of connector retaining members with a
10 plurality of seats for receiving connector
elements, the number and spacing of said seats in
each of said connector retaining members
conforming to the number and spacing of the
longitudinal grooves in each of said blanks,
15 placing connector elements in each of said seats,
positioning said blanks with their grooved sides

together and with said connector retaining
members in said transverse grooves, bonding said
blanks together, and severing the thus bonded
assembly along longitudinal lines intermediate
5 said longitudinal grooves.

U.S Patent No. 4,641,988 to Ganner is
directed to a fitting for releasably joining two
structural components. It is illustrated for
releasably joining two structural components
10 particularly plate-shaped structural components
which extend at a right angle relative to one
another, a fitting has a preferably cylindrical
locking element which can be inserted either
directly in a bore in the first structural
15 component or it can be inserted indirectly in a
housing, and a holding piece with a holding

projection anchored in the second structural
component. In the assembled position, the holding
projection & abuts against one or two gripping
surfaces of the locking element which gripping
5 surfaces are of, for example, eccentric shape,
and the holding projection is pulled toward the
locking element when the locking element is
turned. The holding piece is constructed plate-
shaped and is insertable in a slot in the second
10 structural component.

U.S. Patent No. 4,682,458 to Sparrow
describes a floor composed of parallel spaced
beams having flanges and blocks of polystyrene
foam which are laid on the flanges to bridge the
15 gaps between the beams. Boards are laid on the
polystyrene blocks, and are supported by the

blocks, which form load-bearing members of the floor. The blocks may have flanged portions extending over the beams, so as to provide heat insulation.

5 U.S Patent No. 5,004,027 to Legler et al illustrates a biscuit joiner. It is described as a biscuit joiner for cutting semi-elliptical slots in opposing edges of workpieces which are to be joined along those edges includes a housing adapted to be mounted upon the quill of a multi-
10 purpose woodworking tool, which housing encloses a rotary saw blade adapted to be attached to a spindle projecting from the quill on which the housing is mounted. A spring loaded guide
15 projects from the front face of the housing and has a slot therethrough, so that when the front

face of the guide is engaged by an edge of a
workpiece to be slotted the guide can be pushed
inwardly against spring pressure, allowing the
rotary saw blade to be exposed and form a slot in
the edge of the workpiece. Adjustable stops are
provided on the guide so that a desired depth of
cut will automatically be made after adjustment.
An alternative construction of this biscuit
joiner is especially adapted for use in
conjunction with a conventional drill press, with
the arbor which carries the saw blade being
clamped in the chuck on the drive spindle of the
drill motor.

U.S. Patent No. 5,182,891 to Slocum

describes a flooring construction which is
provided having a unitary construction with a top

layer providing a finished flooring surface and
an insulation layer adjacent the top layer. The
flooring panel includes an upper portion and a
lower portion. The upper portion has a larger
5 dimension than the lower portion and extends
outwardly beyond the lower portion. A recessed
portion between the upper portion and the lower
portion defines a channel. A plurality of
interlock support elements having a vertical web
10 and an upper horizontal flange are arranged so
that the horizontal flange extends into the
channel. The vertical web extends below the
lower portion to raise the flooring.

U.S. Patent No. 5,251,996 to Hiller et al
15 describes a connecting element for connecting two
parts generally in a connection plane has a first

portion for connecting the element relative to a
first of the parts and second portion for
connecting the element relative to the second
part. The second portion includes actuation
members which on relative movement of the parts
substantially along the connection plane urge the
parts forcefully towards each other.

U.S Patent No. 5,377,732 to Fujii et al
illustrates a wood joining structure and method
thereof. It is described as a technique is
provided for joining wood members. A plurality of
slits are formed on the end portions of wood
pieces desired to be joined, and the end portions
are abutted with corresponding slits in alignment
to form a common surface. Each of the abutted
wood end portions is fixed by temporary fixing

means to a desired joining state. Thereafter, an
adhesive agent is applied into the interior
surfaces of the slits. Connecting plates, e.g.,
made of a reinforced plastic material coated with
the adhesive agent, are inserted into the aligned
slits. The adhesive agent is then hardened.

U.S Patent No. 5,458,433 to Stastny

explicates a biscuit and joint made using same.

It is described as a biscuit having octagonal
outer periphery is used to form a joint between
first and second workpieces. The biscuit fits
within arcuate slots formed in the workpieces,
with glue placed in the slots and/or on the
biscuit before the joint is put together. The

biscuit is made of an anhydrous compressed wood.

U.S. Patent No. 5,480,117 to Fleming, III

describes a bracket for mounting a rotary lock member in the frame of a panel which is provided.

The bracket is a preferably U-shaped body having a base and two legs extending therefrom. The

5 inner dimension of the bracket is chosen to allow

insertion of a rotary lock member therein. Panel

engaging steps and protrusions are located on the

outside surface of each leg for engaging the

frame material. The legs of the bracket are

10 biased inwardly towards one another, such that

when a locking member is inserted therein, the

legs are pressed outwardly, driving the

protrusions into the frame material. A number of

bores are located in the bracket to allow

15 supplemental locking members to lock the bracket

to the frame.

U.S Patent No. 5,529,428 to Bischof is
directed to a metallic structural element for
connecting workpieces consisting of wood,
woodworking material or plastic. It is described
as a metallic structural element for connecting
workpieces consisting of wood, woodworking
material or plastic, consisting of a lamellar
part, which provides the non-positive connection
with the first workpiece provided with a groove
and a transverse hole, and a bolt-like part
which, through screwing or pinning, realizes the
non-positive connection with the second workpiece
provided with a longitudinal hole. The lamellar
part has, in the center, a hole which is at right
angles to the plane of the lamella and is
intended for fixing in the groove of the

workpiece. Variants having a wing-like long or rectangular short lamellar part and a bolt-like part in the form of a conical wood screw, cylindrical screw, screw having a metal thread, threaded sleeve or pin. Accessories: screwing tool and drilling template.

U.S. Patent No. 5,660,016 to Erwin et al describes an extruded plastic decking plank for mounting to an underlying support structure, the plank having a rigid foam core, a resilient outer plastic shell, and a clamping portion for securing the plank to the support structure. The top surface of the plank can be provided with a non-slip surface. The invention also includes an attachment system for securing such decking planks to a support structure by engaging the

clamping portions of the decking planks onto
clamps or hold down blocks which are secured onto
the support structure, and which permit relative
motion between the planks and the structure in
the planks' lengthwise direction to prevent
stress and buckling caused by uneven expansion.

Notwithstanding the prior art, the present
invention is neither taught nor rendered obvious
thereby.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is an anchoring
biscuit device for joining three boards. It
includes, (a) a first substantially flat
horizontal top element having a generally
biscuit-shaped top view configuration, (b) at
least one substantially vertical support member

attached to the underside of the top element and
extending downwardly therefrom for a

predetermined length for joinder of two adjacent
boards which have been pre-cut with biscuit

5 receiving slots, and, (c) an attachment orifice
located at least on the top element for

attachment of the anchoring biscuit device to a
support board for anchoring and support of the

two adjacent boards. In one preferred

10 embodiment, a top bevel is included at the
orifice to permit angled screwing at positions

other than vertical positions. In other

embodiments, the screw orifice will have an oval

or elongated shape to likewise enable screwing at

15 angles other than vertical. In yet another

preferred embodiment, the orifice will both be

beveled and elongated.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention should be more fully understood when the specification herein is taken in conjunction with the drawings appended hereto wherein:

Figure 1 illustrates a top view of one preferred embodiment of the present invention anchoring biscuit device, Figure 2 illustrates a front view, and Figure 3 illustrates a side view thereof;

Figure 4 shows a side view of the present invention device shown in Figures 1 through 3 but being attached to a joist and a first deck board and about to be attached to a second deck board where both deck boards are supported by that

joist;

Figure 5 shows a front view of an
alternative embodiment present invention
anchoring biscuit device;

5 Figures 6 and 7 show top views of
alternative present invention anchoring biscuit
devices;

10 Figure 8 shows a partial side cut view of
the device shown in Figure 7 to illustrate the
beveled cut of the screw hole;

15 Figure 9 shows a side view of the present
invention device shown in Figure 7, but being
attached to a joist and a first deck board and
about to be attached to a second deck board where
both deck boards are supported by that joist;
and,

Figure 10 and Figure 11 show front views of alternative embodiment present invention anchoring biscuit devices having single vertical extended members.

5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESENT INVENTION

In Figure 1, there is shown a top view of present invention anchor biscuit device 1.

Device 1 includes a top element 3 having a flat top surface as shown, and a top view shape of a biscuit. Thus, it includes walls 5 and 7 in the shape of arcs having predetermined radius and predetermined arc lengths. In this case, they are perfectly symmetrical and have flat endwalls 9 and 11. Without exceeding the scope of the present invention, these biscuit shapes could be slightly modified, such as having slightly non-

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circular arcs or linear segments at angles approximating arcs.

Top element 3 also includes an attachment means, in this case, screw hole 13 located on center. This enables the user to nail or screw device 1 into a joist, as more fully described in conjunction with Figure 4 below.

Figures 2 and 3 show front and end (right side) views, respectively of device 1 shown in Figure 1. Thus, device 1 includes vertical support members 15 and 17 with a space therebetween to permit a screw or nail to pass through screw hole 13 into a joist or support board. Vertical support members 15 and 17 have a predetermined height so as to rest on a joist in such a way as to establish biscuit top element 3

at a predetermined height from the joist for attachment of two adjacent boards thereto which have pre-cut biscuit slots corresponding thereto.

Figure 4 shows present invention device 1 with identical parts identically numbered.

Top element rear biscuit wall 5 is inserted into pre-cut biscuit slot 27 of horizontal beam 21, as shown. Screw 31 is inserted into screw hole 13 and into joist beam 25. This anchors device 1 to joist beam 25 and establishes the elevation of top element 3 so as to match with biscuit slot 27. Beam 23 will be placed atop joist 25 and adjacent to beam 21 by being slid into position with wall 7 fitting into slot 29 and the bottom of beam 23 resting on joist 25. By this method, device 1 attaches all three boards to one another

as the biscuit aspects are typically tight-fitting. Thus, for example, decking boards may be attached without the need for nails or screws entering the beams from the top.

5 Figure 5 shows an alternative embodiment

present invention device 51 which has multiple

screw holes 43, 53 and 55 located in a straight

line on center of top element 47. It includes

ends 41 and 49, and it has a plurality of

10 vertical support members such as vertical support

members 45 and 57, with spaces therebetween for

screw or nail insertions. Device 51 is used in

the same manner as device 1 described above with

respect to Figure 4.

15 Figures 6 and 7 show top views of

alternative embodiment present invention

anchoring biscuit devices 61 and 91 respectively.

In Figure 6, there is shown a top view of present

invention anchor biscuit device 61. Device 61

includes a top element 63 having a flat top

5 surface as shown, and a top view shape of a

biscuit. Thus, it includes walls 65 and 67 in

the shape of arcs having predetermined radius and

predetermined arc lengths. In this case, they

are perfectly symmetrical and have flat endwalls

10 69 and 71. Top element 63 also includes an

attachment means, in this case, screw hole 73

located on center. Screw hole 73 has a bevel cut

75 at its top. This enables the user to nail or

screw device 61 into a joist with the screw or

15 nail being installed vertically, or, more

preferably, at an angle.

In Figure 7, there is shown a top view of present invention anchor biscuit device 91.

Device 91 includes a top element 93 having a flat top surface as shown, and a top view shape of a

biscuit. Thus, it includes walls 95 and 97 in the shape of arcs having predetermined radius and predetermined arc lengths. In this case, they

are perfectly symmetrical and have flat endwalls 99 and 101. Top element 93 also includes an

attachment means, screw hole 103 located on center. Note that screw hole 103 is elongated

and has a beveled top 105. This enables the user to nail or screw device 91 into a joist, either vertically or at an angle, as more fully

described in conjunction with Figure 8 below.

Figure 8 shows a partial side cut view of

device 91 of Figure 7 to illustrate the beveled cut 105 of screw hole 203.

Figure 9 shows present invention device 91 of Figure 7 and the boards shown in Figure 4, with identical parts identically numbered.

Top element 93 at rear biscuit wall 95 is inserted into pre-cut biscuit slot 27 of horizontal beam 21, as shown. Screw 131 is inserted at about a 30° angle from vertical into beveled screw hole 103 and into horizontal beam 21 and joist beam 25. This anchors device 91 and horizontal beam 21 to joist beam 25 and support member 117 (and 115 not shown) maintains top element 93 in a horizontal position during screwing and to maintain its position with biscuit slot 27. Beam 23 will be placed atop

joist 25 and adjacent to beam 21 by being slid
into position with wall 97 fitting into slot 29
and the bottom of beam 23 resting on joist 25.

By this method, device 91 attaches all three

5 boards to one another as the biscuit aspects are
typically tight-fitting. The steps are repaeated
along each joint beam in a deck and they are
repeated for each next horizontal beam to
assemble, e.g., a deck, platform, porch, etc.

10 Figure 10 shows a front view of device 141.

Thus, device 141 includes a single vertical
support member 145 with a space cut out 143 to
permit a screw or nail to pass through beveled
screw hole 153 and through support member 145

15 into a joist or support board. Vertical support
member 145 has a predetermined height so as to

rest on the side of a beam into which device 141
may be inserted and, optionally, so as to rest on
a joist in such a way as to establish biscuit top
element 147 at a predetermined height from the
joist for attachment of two adjacent boards
thereto which have pre-cut biscuit slots
corresponding thereto.

Figure 11 shows a front view present
invention of device 161, which includes a single
off-center vertical support member 165 with a
space underneath beveled screw hole 163 to permit
a screw or nail to pass through screw hole 163
into a beam and/or joist or support board. Top
167 has opposite ends 169 and 171 as shown, with
support member 165 biased to the left toward end
169, as shown. Top 163 may have a topography

which would be the same as that shown in Figures
1, 6 or 7 above.

Obviously, numerous modifications and
variations of the present invention are possible
5 in light of the above teachings. It is therefore
understood that within the scope of the appended
claims, the invention may be practiced otherwise
than as specifically described herein.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An anchoring biscuit device for joining three boards, which comprises:

(a) a first substantially flat horizontal top element having a generally biscuit-shaped top view configuration, said top element having an imaginary center line;

(b) at least one substantially vertical support member attached to the underside of said top element along said imaginary center line of said top element and extending downwardly therefrom for a predetermined length to maintain said top element in a predetermined position during use for joinder of two adjacent boards which have been pre-cut with biscuit receiving slots; and,

(c) at least one attachment orifice located at least on said top element for attachment of said anchoring biscuit device to a support board for anchoring and support of said two adjacent boards.

2. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 1 wherein said attachment orifice is at least one screwhole located on said top element for screwing of said anchoring biscuit device to a support board.

3. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 2 wherein there is at least one screwhole located substantially in the center of said top element and there are two vertical support members attached to said top element, said two vertical

support members being substantially flat, being in the same plane and one of each being located on opposite sides of said at least one screwhole.

4. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 1 wherein there one vertical extended member extending downwardly from said vertical support member, said vertical extended member containing at least one cut out for securing said device to a support board.

5. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 1 wherein said attachment orifice has a bevelled top.

6. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 1 wherein said attachment orifice is non-circular

and elongated.

7. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 5
wherein said attachment orifice is non-circular
and elongated.

8. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 1
wherein said top element and said vertical
support member are uni-structurally formed.

9. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 1
wherein there are two vertical support members,
they are located opposite one another, and one is
located on each side of said attachment orifice.

10. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 9
wherein said top element and said two vertical
support members are all uni-structurally formed.

11. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 9 wherein said attachment orifice has a bevelled top.

12. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 9 wherein said attachment orifice is non-circular and elongated.

13. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 12 wherein said attachment orifice is non-circular and elongated.

14. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 1 wherein there is a single vertical support member and it is located offcenter and to one side of said attachment orifice.

15. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 14

wherein said attachment orifice has a bevelled top.

16. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 14 wherein said attachment orifice is non-circular and elongated.

17. The anchoring biscuit device of claim 15 wherein said attachment orifice is non-circular and elongated.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is an anchoring biscuit device for joining three boards. It includes, (a) a first substantially flat horizontal top element having a generally biscuit-shaped configuration, (b) at least one substantially vertical support member attached to the underside of the top element and extending downwardly therefrom for a predetermined length for joinder of two adjacent boards which have been pre-cut with biscuit receiving slots, and, (c) an attachment orifice located at least on the top element for attachment of the anchoring biscuit device to a support board for anchoring and support of the two adjacent boards. In one preferred embodiment, a top bevel is included at the orifice to permit angled screwing at positions other than vertical positions. In other embodiments, the screw orifice will have an oval or elongated shape to likewise enable screwing at angles other than vertical. In yet another preferred embodiment, the orifice will both be beveled and elongated.

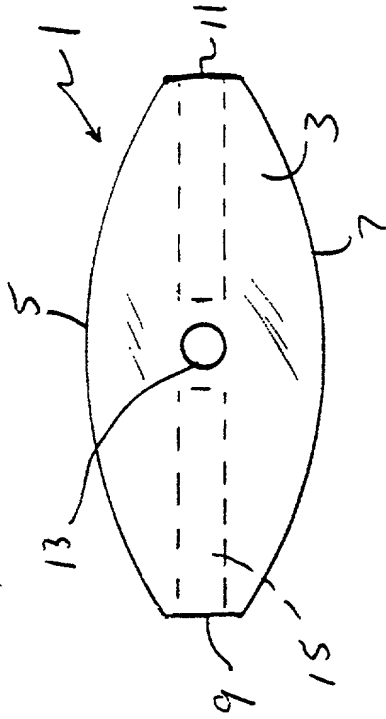


Figure 1

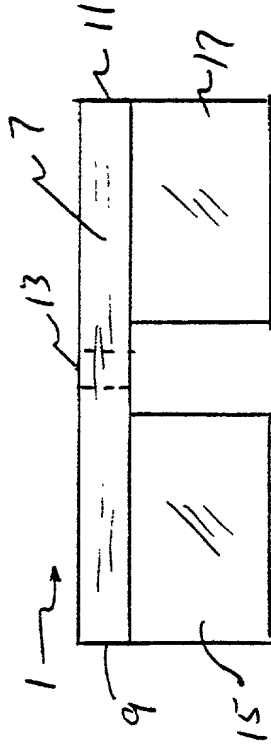


Figure 2

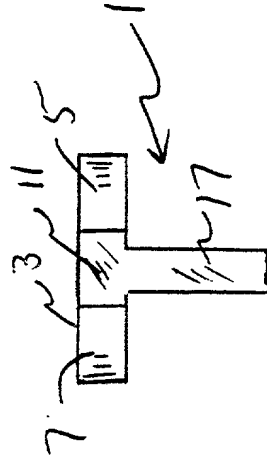


Figure 3

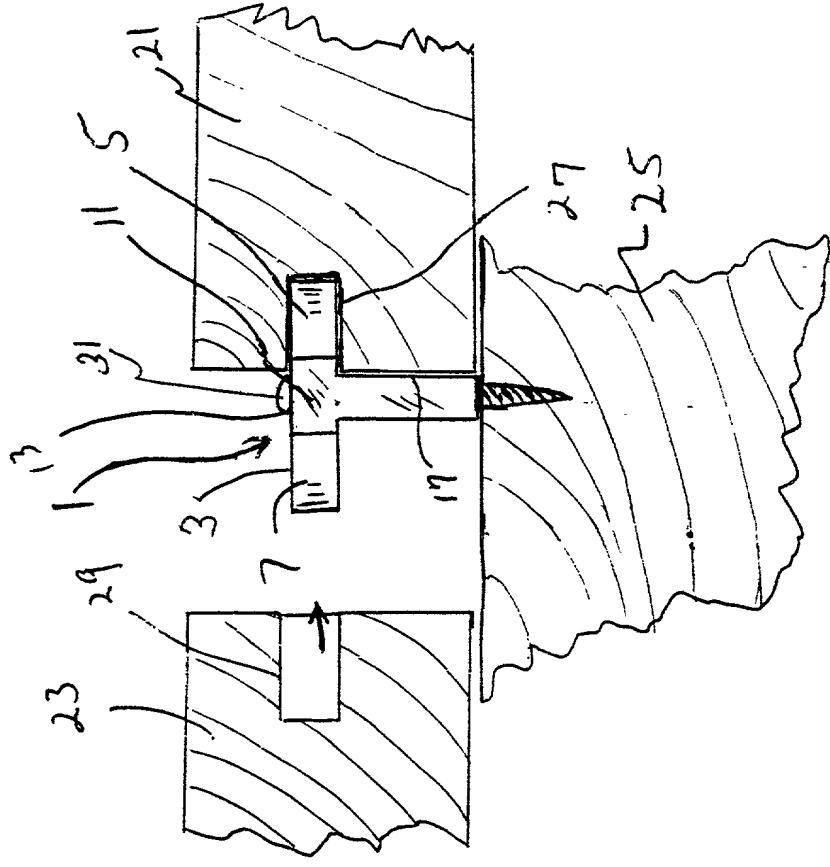


Figure 4

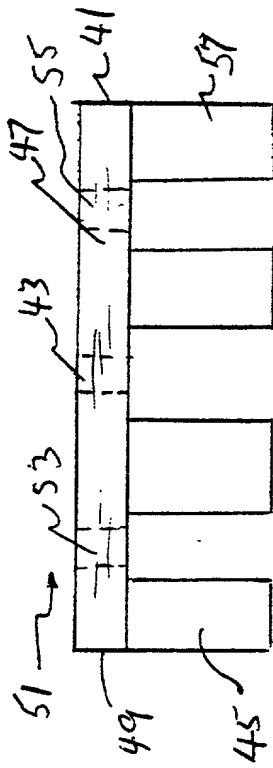


Figure 5

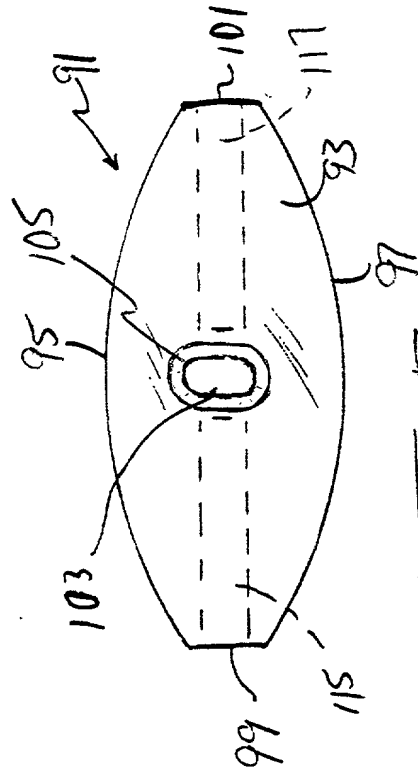


Figure 7

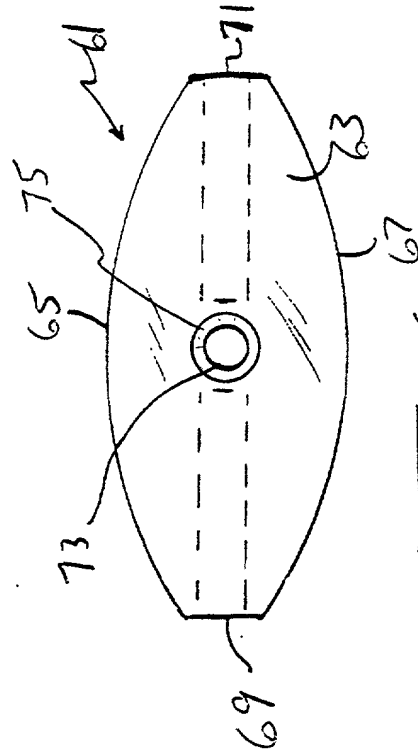


Figure 6

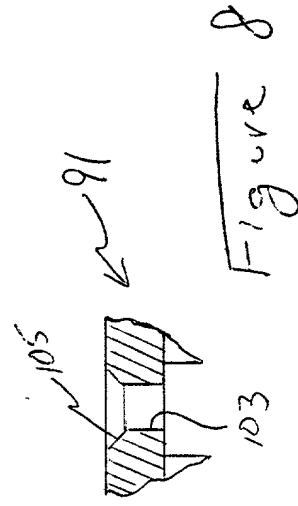


Figure 8

Appendix E

Applicant or
Patentee: Harry W. Eberle, III Attorney's
Serial No. or Patent No.: _____ Docket No.: HWE-105C
Filed or Issued: _____
For: Anchoring Biscuit Device

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9 (f) and 1.27 (b)) - INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9 (c) for purpose of paying reduced fees under section 41 (a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled Anchoring Biscuit Device

which is a () continuation, (X) continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/811,898, filed on March 5, 1997, and entitled Anchoring Biscuit Device For Joining Two

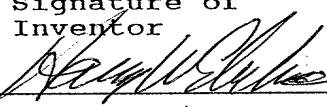
Adjacent Boards

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and am under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9 (c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern under 37 CFR 1.9 (d) or a non-profit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 (e).

I have not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed nor am I under any obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license any rights in this invention to any person, concern or organization which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9 (d) or a non-profit organization under 37 CFR 1.9 (e).

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate (37 CFR 1.28 (b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

<u>Name of Inventor</u> Harry W. Eberle, III	<u>Name of Inventor</u>	<u>Name of Inventor</u>
<u>Signature of Inventor</u> 	<u>Signature of Inventor</u>	<u>Signature of Inventor</u>
<u>Date</u> 10/29/98	<u>Date</u>	<u>Date</u>

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare: that my citizenship and current address are as shown below; that I have read and understand the attached specification, including the claims; that I believe I am the original, first, and sole inventor (if only my name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if other inventors are named below) of the invention entitled: Anchoring Biscuit Device

the specification of which is attached hereto; that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the attached specification, including the claims; that this application in part discloses and claims subject matter disclosed in my or our earlier filed pending application, Serial No. 08/811,898

filed March 5, 1997 and entitled

Anchoring Biscuit Device For Joining Two Adjacent Boards

that, as to the subject matter of this application which is common to said earlier application, I do not know and do not believe the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to the filing date of said earlier application, that the same was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to the filing date of said earlier of said earlier application, that said common subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the filing date of said earlier application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the filing date of said earlier application; that I acknowledge my duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of said common subject matter in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations 1.56(a); and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on said common subject matter has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by me or my legal representatives or assigns, except as follows:

FOREIGN APPLICATIONS FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE FILING OF THIS APPLICATION: Anchoring Biscuit Device For Joining Two Adjacent Boards, Serial No. 08/811,898; filed in Canada on March 3, 1998 (HWE-103FC); filed in Europe on March 5, 1998 (HWE-103FE); and filed in Australia on March 9, 1998 (HWE-103FA).

FOREIGN APPLICATIONS FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE FILING OF THIS APPLICATION:

None

I hereby appoint the following attorney and/or agent to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Kenneth P. Glynn, Esq., Reg. No. 26,893

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Address all correspondence to KENNETH P. GLYNN, ESQ., Suite 201 (Plaza One), One Rte. 12 West, Flemington, New Jersey 08822

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF SOLE
OR FIRST INVENTOR

INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE

DATE

Harry W. Eberle, III

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10/29/98

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FULL NAME OF SECOND
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DATE

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